

**HAMPTON BUDGET COMMITTEE  
MINUTES  
January 20, 2015**

**Budget Committee Members Present**

Eileen Latimer, Chairman  
Michael Plouffe, Vice-Chairman  
Mary-Louise Woolsey, Selectman Representative  
Jerry Znoj, School Board Representative  
Robert Ladd, Hampton Beach Village District Representative  
Joe Grzybowski  
Timothy Citizen Jones  
Sunny Kravitz  
Stephen LaBranche  
Brian Lapham  
Jim O'Loughlin  
Michael Pierce  
Richard Reniere  
David Wood

**Excused**

Glenn Farrell

Chairman Latimer called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

Members of the Committee made self-introductions.

Chairman Latimer welcomed Norman Silberdick, Chairman of the Trustees of the Trust Funds.

Mr. Silberdick said the Trustees entered into an investment advisor's contract with Mackensen & Company and there are fees associated with the capital reserve funds. HB 297 provides for the payment of advisory fees from the income of capital reserve funds. There is a warrant article for \$1,500 for the Town's portion. The warrant article says that the \$1,500 appropriated in the operating budget would not be spent on passage of the warrant article. The problem is that the \$1,500 is not in the operating budget. The way the warrant article is written is not correct. Mr. Silberdick asked for an increase in the budget and default budget to accommodate these fees. This may have to be done at the deliberative session. Otherwise the Town will receive a bill for \$1,500.

Chairman Latimer said this is something that absolutely needs to be corrected. This was an oversight. Ms. Woolsey said she will move adding the \$1,500 into the operating budget at the deliberative session. She said money could be moved from the Heritage Commission which is not doing anything at present. Mr. Jones said he is opposed to any addition to

what the Budget Committee has done. Mr. Lapham, Mr. Grzybowski and Mr. Pierce agreed with Mr. Jones.

Chairman Latimer discussed the insurance rate and refunds for 2015. She said this was discussed by the Budget Committee and it was assumed a correction would be made by the Board of Selectmen. Once the Board of Selectmen budget was passed to the Budget Committee no numbers could be changed. Ms. Pulliam said the Board of Selectmen did not go back and adjust this number for insurance.

Ms. Woolsey said the Selectmen do not present a budget to the Budget Committee. They present a statement of expenditures and revenues. It is a request of what they want. The Budget Committee makes a budget with a goal of presenting it to the deliberative session and what results from that is the budget. Mr. Jones said only the legislative body at the Town Meeting can make a budget. The Budget Committee is making a recommendation to the legislative body.

Chairman Latimer discussed the money coming back from Health Trust for 2015. Ms. Pulliam said that amount is not broken down until the funds are received. Chairman Latimer recommended an insurance holiday to provide more money with which to work. She asked Ms. Woolsey to bring that up with the Selectmen.

Chairman Latimer then discussed the petitioned warrant article to reduce membership on the Budget Committee. She said the article seeks to reduce the number of at-large members from 12 to 7. Chairman Latimer said she had been among those who thought a trial reduction might be warranted. She said she has not yet come to terms with this. Chairman Latimer said in this warrant article there is not a way to reduce the number and therefore she believes this article is flawed. Chairman Latimer said she is totally opposed to this warrant article even though she might be in favor of some reduction in the future.

Mr. O'Loughlin said looking back over the past year he felt the number of members could be reduced. Ms. Woolsey said she felt this warrant article was frivolous. Mr. Jones said he felt a large committee was good because it provides a large amount of opinions. The only thing needed is more efficiency. Mr. Znoj said he felt the committee could be smaller and more effective. There are now too many people to get into a quality discussion. Mr. Lapham said a larger committee provides a larger wealth of experience. Mr. Pierce said he felt the committee was the right size. Mr. Kravitz agreed. Mr. Wood said the Town needs the Budget Committee because it is a catch basin. He said he has never doubted the sincerity of the members. Perhaps sub-committees could be formed. Mr. Grzybowski said the committee should be reduced by some number.

Encumbrances, revenues, and rooms and meals tax were discussed. Ms. Woolsey noted all that the Town does for the State Park and that it is not reimbursed. The State has now dumped the retirement on the towns.

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Mr. Pierce requested copies of tentative agreements and contracts the Town has made for the last three years.

Mr. Ladd said the HBVD Annual Meeting will be held on March 27<sup>th</sup>.

The next regular meeting of the Budget Committee will be Tuesday, February 17, 2015, at 7:00 p.m. in the Selectmen's Meeting Room.

**Adjournment**

**Moved** by Mr. Jones, seconded by Mr. LaBranche, to adjourn the meeting at 8:50 p.m.

**Vote:** 14 yes, 0 no. Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Joan Rice  
Secretary